

THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

OR,

Political, Commercial, and Literary Gazette.

Vol. IV.]

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 1819.

[No. 134.]

Published Daily, with the exception of Mondays,—and accompanied with occasional Engravings, illustrative of Antiquities, Science, and the Arts,—at a Subscription price of Eight Rupees per Month, and Half a Rupee for each Plate issued.

General Summary of News.

EUROPE.

The arrival of the Bengal from Liverpool, which she left on the 3d of March, cannot bring us later London news than we already possess. We have not heard of any particular information by her from Liverpool, but unfavourable commercial advices are expected.

Among the subject of Parliamentary Intelligence which we laid before our readers yesterday, the mass of Papers relative to the Slave Trade, that were laid on the table of the House of Commons by Lord Castlereagh, attracted considerable attention. They were too voluminous, however, to be taken into consideration for some days, and were accordingly ordered to be printed. The leading Ministerial Paper, the *Courier*, which has the advantage of the earliest access to official records, gives the following analysis of their principal contents, which is valuable for the information it contains, as well as for the sentiments that are expressed on the conduct of Great Britain towards other States, in such of the negotiations as involved the consideration of this abominable traffick.

"Lord Castlereagh has laid upon the table of the House of Commons a series of highly interesting, and no less important documents, connected with the effort of England to procure the universal abolition of the Slave Trade. They are too voluminous to admit of any thing like a satisfactory analysis of their contents; but we shall endeavour to convey a general notion of what has been accomplished, and what remains to be done, upon this great question.

In the first place we would observe, that we have read these papers with sentiments of mingled pleasure and regret. We have read them with pleasure, because they furnish unequivocally proofs of the unwearied zeal and ardor with which Lord Castlereagh has urged upon the Continental Powers, the policy of England, with regard to the Slave Trade. Our regret arises, at the reflection, that so much importunity should have been necessary, and at last so ineffectual, to procure the co-operation of the Allied Sovereigns, in a measure which humanity alone, if her voice could rise above the din of sordid passions, would command should be adopted. We ought, perhaps, to except from this censure, the Emperor of Russia, who appears to have entertained the proposition with a sincere anxiety to do whatever was practicable.

The papers commence with the conferences which took place at London, in December 1817, for the purpose of resuming the discussion, pursuant to the additional Article of the Treaty of Paris of the 20th of November 1815. These conferences were attended by the Ministers of Russia, Prussia, Austria, and France, and they invited Count Palmella, the Portuguese Minister, to be present at them. At one of these conferences (February 4, 1818,) Lord Castlereagh read a Memorandum, in which among other things, his Lordship stated, "that a considerable revival of the Slave Trade had taken place,

especially on the coast of Africa, north of the line, since the restoration of peace;" that "the parties engaged in it had adopted the practice of carrying it on in armed and fast-sailing vessels;" that "the traffic thus carried on was marked on with increased horrors, from the inhuman manner in which these desperate adventurers were in the habit of crowding the slaves on board vessels better adapted to escape from the interruption of cruisers, than to serve for the transport of human beings;" and that "the improvement of Africa, especially in a commercial point of view, had advanced in proportion as the Slave Trade had been suppressed;" while, "with its revival, every prospect of industry and of amendment appeared to decline." These are melancholy admissions, and such as ought to inspire increasing energy, if possible, into the advocates of that cause, the final success of which will be reckoned by posterity, the proudest moral triumph of British legislation.

It is needless to add, that no conclusive arrangement emanated from these conferences at London. The subject was resumed at Aix-la-Chapelle, and Lord Castlereagh, in a despatch to Earl Bathurst, dated Aix-la-Chapelle, Nov. 2d, states, that in the conference of the 24th of October, he opened to the Plenipotentiaries the existing state of the trade in Slaves, and gave notice, that he should on a future day submit to them two propositions: 1st, for addressing a direct appeal, on the part of the five Courts, to the King of Portugal, urging his Majesty to decree the final abolition of the Slave Trade in his dominions at the period already agreed to by Spain, namely, the 20th May, 1820; and secondly, that the Powers there represented should accept the principle of a qualified right of mutual visit. His Lordship adds, "it was impossible not to perceive, in the short discussion which ensued, that there was considerable hesitation, especially in the French Plenipotentiary, with regard to the principle of the latter measure." This, in fact, became, subsequently, the great obstruction to every definitive arrangement, though we cannot help thinking, that if all the Powers were as frank and sincere in their pursuit of the desired object, as England has proved herself to be, the principle of a mutual right of search would involve no difficulties that might not be easily surmounted. There is a very able and forcible paper, addressed by Lord Castlereagh to the Duke de Richelieu upon this subject, in which his Lordship successfully combats the various objections which had been taken to the above measure. He also obtained an interview with his Grace, the day after the conference, and entered into a full examination of the measure in all its bearings; and though, observes his Lordship, "I cannot say that I succeeded in shaking his Grace's opinion, I flatter myself I reduced the weight and number of his objections; and that I brought his mind to feel the extreme inconvenience, as well as moral objection, to leaving the question where it is."

In a subsequent sitting of the Congress, (Nov. 4,) a proposition made by Lord Castlereagh, was adopted unanimously, "that a letter should be written to the King of Portugal, in the name of the Sovereigns, in the most pressing, and at the same

time the most affectionate terms," in order to engage him to fix the 20th May, 1820, as the final term of the traffic in his dominions. Lord Castlereagh also proposed that "it would be useful and perhaps necessary to consider the trade in slaves, as a crime against the Law of Nations, and to assimilate it to piracy." This was submitted, as a matter for consideration merely.

In a letter from the Noble Lord to Earl Bathurst, dated Aix-la-Chapelle, November 23, transmitting the notes of the Russian, French, Austrian, and Prussian Plenipotentiaries, upon the two propositions submitted to Congress, his Lordship says, "The result of these notes being extremely discouraging to our hopes, it was determined to review the objections brought forward to the measure of mutually conceding the right of visit, especially by the Plenipotentiary of France."

After presenting this review to the consideration of the Conference, and in an audience with which I was honoured by the Emperor of Russia, I took occasion to represent to his Imperial Majesty, in the strongest terms, the necessity of taking some effective measure of this nature without delay, and without waiting for the decree of final abolition on the part of Portugal.

His Imperial Majesty listened with his accustomed interest to my representations on this subject, and promised me to give directions to his Ministers, to propose that the consideration of the question should be re-opened in London under fresh instructions.

The modification which I have finally urged of this measure, and, I trust with considerable hope of success, is, that, in addition to the limitation of the right of visit to the coast of Africa, and to a specific number of ships of each Power, the duration of the Convention should be for a limited number of years, say seven, at the end of which period, the several Powers would again have it in their power to review their decision, after some experience of its convenience or inconvenience, of its efficacy to the object, and of the necessity of its being renewed, regard being had to the then state of the illicit Slave Trade. This arrangement would sufficiently meet our most pressing wants, while it would go less permanently to disturb the acknowledged principles of Maritime Law, as regulating the right of visit. By the aid of this latter expedient, I flatter myself that I have made a considerable impression in removing the strong repugnance which was at first felt to the measure."

The different notes above alluded to, are given at full length in the Papers laid before the Parliament. They are at least interesting, as shewing the objections, real or assumed, which are felt by the Governments of Europe with respect to the only measure that can ever render the abolition of the Slave Trade complete.

We have only to add, that the result of all these deliberations was, a declaration on the part of the Allied Sovereigns, represented at Congress, that they would instruct their respective Ministers in London to continue the discussions upon the subject; and Lord Castlereagh, in his last dispatch to the Government at home, dated Paris, Dec. 10, 1818, says, "Though I cannot give hopes of any immediate progress, I venture, nevertheless, to indulge a sanguine expectation, that if the object be pursued, with the same persevering and conciliating temper on the part of Great Britain, which has already achieved so much for the cause of abolition, the French Government may be brought, at no distant period, to unite their naval exertions with those of the other Allied Powers for the suppression of the illicit Slave Trade, under the modified regulations submitted for this purpose to the Plenipotentiaries assembled at Aix-la-Chapelle."

There the important question rests at present. England has done her duty, in all that concerns her own honor, and the violated rights of humanity. Let Europe also do hers, and the world will be relieved from a foul disgrace.

ASIA.

Nurbuddah.—The following is an extract of a Letter, dated from the Nurbuddah; June 24, 1819, which was communicated to us yesterday:

"The change which has taken place in this part of the country is wonderful. When we first arrived, no Officer could ride far from Camp without danger of being cut down by some straggling Pindarrie. The villagers could only cultivate those fields contiguous to their villages, to which they could retreat on the alarm being given from the high poles with which every village was furnished; they were subject to grievous exactions by their Government, and oppressed beyond measure by its servants.

The ryot can now cultivate at his leisure all his fields, and drive out his cattle to graze without fear of the Pindarries; he sows with a well-founded expectation of reaping—and should his speculation prove lucrative, he is not under the necessity of burying his cash, but may employ it in purchasing the conveniences of life; his wife and daughter are no longer liable to be forced away from him to gratify the lust of any rich libertine, nor is he in danger of having his head taken off for remonstrating. Our mild and just Government has substituted order and regularity for rapine and injustice.

It may be asked, are the natives grateful for the change I have endeavoured to describe? I think not; they have no feeling of gratitude, and they no sooner find themselves under a mild Government, then they set themselves to work to take advantage of it.

The natives about here at present withhold the grain of the country, to enhance its price; there is a general combination and monopoly; this is so notorious, that it is with the greatest difficulty grain can be procured for the daily subsistence of the troops, and what little is procured, is sold at eight and a half seers of ottah per rupee. The nerrick is more, but the bunneahs either will not, or cannot conform to it. The most extraordinary thing is, that the monopoly is well known to the civil authorities; but their system of kind treatment will not admit of their interference, and the consequence is, that the men often go without food, though Maun Sing (the head man of Senny, a town within thirty miles of us) has hoarded up enormous quantities of grain, but refuses to sell it, the scarcity having not yet amounted to a famine, in the confident hope of which, he persists in keeping his numerous grain pits closed. If we had an English mob here for a few minutes, they would soon open them for him."

Supreme Court.

Being aware that the Sessions were to close yesterday, and that some of the cases of Forgery which had been brought forward for trial in the Supreme Court were to be heard and determined on, we were in attendance for the purpose of reporting such portions of them as might appear to deserve particular notice. The facts which came out in the examinations of the witnesses were all of a nature calculated to impress the deepest conviction of the depraved character of the natives of this country generally, and their utter indifference to the distinctions between truth and falsehood, fair-dealing and fraud.

The cases were too long and too intricate for a report of them to be generally interesting; but we cannot refrain from giving the Charge of the Learned Judge to the Jury, in summing up the evidence on the last case tried, as it contains some very important remarks on a communication which has appeared through the channel of our Journal, and on this account we

gave the Charge of the Learned Judge our undivided attention, and was enabled to follow him with great precision throughout the whole. The Address, as nearly as we could preserve the words that fell from His Lordship, was as follows:

"Gentlemen of the Jury,

In my Address to the Grand Jury, at the opening of these Sessions, I thought it my duty to lead their attention among other things to the frauds which were committed through the instrumentality of the Court of Requests. The subject was alluded to by my Lord the Chief Justice at the preceding Sessions, but the cases had not then been sufficiently investigated (it was indeed a laborious work) to have them brought before the Court.

Upon reading the informations, I was struck, as every man must, be with the systematic and organized villainy, which seemed to have been long in practice; and I should have been guilty of a dereliction of my duty if I had not earnestly recommended the particular attention of the Grand Jury, to an evil which went to the propagation and incitement of vice, which rendered property insecure, and which left the innocent and the industrious exposed to the will of profligacy and wickedness.

I should have been well pleased, if upon examination it had proved that the informations had not been supported, or that the crimes which they detailed had not been verified to the fullest extent.

The Grand Jury, without having seen the informations from which I spoke, but upon evidence taken before themselves, were, I presume, fully convinced of the existence of this most execrable guilt, and as they have expressed themselves upon it in a manner which cannot be improved by me, I shall read it in their words:

"The Grand Jury have noticed with statements of deep concern, the various cases of forgery brought forward in the present Sessions. Forgery of the most aggravated description, commenced by the parties with the deliberate intention of supporting by perjury, acts of fraud and extortion against the most helpless part of the community—and it is on record that they frequently obtain their iniquitous end by means of such perjury through the process of a Court of Justice.

"The Jury apprehend that the crime above alluded to has been carried to a considerable extent. It would seem that the constitution of the Court of Requests, where so many and various causes are daily decided, is inadequate to prevent the combinations of deliberate and complicated villainy, which, it is feared, are but partially represented in the Calendar of the present Sessions."

The above, Gentlemen, is taken from the Representation made to this Court by the Grand Jury, and a Judge who omitted to point their attention to such matter when it appeared judicially before him, must have thought himself culpable; and had he been silent, I cannot but believe, that others would have thought him criminal as soon as it appeared, that the Grand Jury had been convinced of those atrocities to which he had omitted to direct an enquiry.

If the opinion of the Grand Jury required confirmation, it has been amply confirmed—for no less than eight of those miscreants have already been convicted at these Sessions. The particulars of the cases some of you, from probably having been their juries, may know; I hear they were convicted on the clearest evidence, and without any hesitation on the part of their juries.

The present prisoners are before you on a separate charge of the same nature. What has passed upon the former trials

will of course be entirely banished from your minds, and you will consider this case as if you had never, until now, heard of such an offence, and as if this was the only one of such a description which was ever alleged to have been committed.

An improvement in the morals of this people, whether to be accomplished or not, is certainly a most laudable undertaking; but to suppose that the morals of a nation can be brought to such perfection, as to prevent the commission of offences, is visionary, idle, and absurd.

Whether a man thinks deeply or superficially on the subject, he cannot but know that the amelioration of a whole people's morals is a work of great difficulty and of slow progress. To inculcate and confirm in morals, where there are none in existence, is a matter of still more difficulty. But it will be admitted, I believe, that in either case the punishment of vice will be the most efficacious commencement, and that many may be deterred from doing wrong who will not be so easily induced to do right. So long as fraud shall continue profitable and its practice safe, so long as the fruit of it may be secured by perjury and the purjuries continue unpunished, whatever certain theorists may think, I shall not hope for any amelioration of morals.

Gentlemen, although I consider what I have said as quite pertinent to this case, I do not know that I should have thought it necessary to trouble you with it, had it not been for a publication personally against myself,—I wish it to be known that I am aware of it—I wish it to be understood that I should be sorry that any man was to be injured because he intended to be offensive to one. That such attacks may be injurious to the administration of justice, every man will feel. They might possibly influence the conduct of some, but upon me they shall produce no effect; I should indeed be ashamed of myself if I was to be driven from my post or become a deserter from my duty to the public, by such common place scurrility as that with which I have been assailed.

It shall not prevent me from doing justice to the gentleman whose signature it bears; I have but a slight acquaintance with him, but I have heard nothing of him which did not lead me to think him an honorable and meritorious man. His publication I will say is consistent with the opinion which is generally and I believe justly entertained of him. I shall call it inconsiderate, and should be heartily sorry to have it otherwise questioned.

I meant no offence nor even allusion to any Gentleman of the Court of Requests. It is upwards of twenty years since I had the pleasure of knowing two of them, and I should do great wrong to either if I spoke of them in any terms but those of that respect to which I feel they are entitled.

I spoke of a system which requires correction, and of an Institution which I consider to be an intolerable grievance; I spoke of the sentiments of the members of government individually, as to making such an Establishment a source of revenue; and I have reason to know that what I said was correct. I meant no offence to any one, and I take this opportunity of declaring, that I do not believe there is one of the Commissioners who would think for a moment of unduly increasing the revenue for any selfish purpose.

The proportion of causes before that Court, which originate in fraud, I expressly declared were not to be calculated. From what I had seen and heard, I should not have been surprised at any amount. There is not a week in which I do not receive two or three petitions against the decisions of that Court, and the other Judges I suppose each receive at least as many. Plaintiffs complaining that they were nonsuited, and Defendants that they had decrees against them—a refusal to examine their witnesses, altho' at hand. I forbore interference

because I had reason to hope that a plan was in progress to improve the system, and was unwilling to disturb one mode of proceeding until another should be substituted by authority.

The number of causes instituted in that Court for three years, ending with 1818, amounts to *One Hundred and twelve Thousand two Hundred and fifty seven*, which is on an average *Thirty seven thousand four Hundred and nineteen* per annum. How they are disposed of I do not know, but so far as I can ascertain, the practice of sending many to arbitration, is not the least satisfactory.

It must be remembered that the stake at issue in the Court of Requests is often as much as men in the way of property can have to contend for; it is often for all they are worth, and more than they can pay. It must also be remembered that the difficulty of deciding a cause does not depend upon the amount to be decreed, and that there may be more intricacy in a case relating to 100 Rupees than in one relating to 100,000. Is it then possible that the Commissioners can have time to decide each cause with due deliberation, or even ascertain which of them are proper (supposing the parties to be assenting) to be sent to arbitration, and which to be decided by themselves? It appears to me to be impossible.

The only thing I alluded to, which could at all have affected the Commissioners personally, I spoke of with perhaps a blameable delicacy. I did so because I was convinced their wishes were good, and because I really believed they had recourse to the practice from necessity—a necessity arising out of want of time, and a practice which could not be excused by any thing short of necessity, if excusable by that. I was astonished at finding this matter treated as it was in the publication to which I have alluded.

I stated the mischiefs which was to ensue from the proceedings being carried on in such a manner as to make it impossible for the parties aggrieved by Perjury to prosecute the Perjurers to conviction—What I referred to was this:—By the Government Proclamation (the only authority upon which the Commissioners act) a single Commissioner has no more right to administer an oath or to pass a decree than one of you; and it is their constant practice to act singly, and each by himself. If two should not concur, the cause is ordered by the Proclamation to be suspended until the third shall appear to decide—a wise and provident Regulation!! well calculated to ensure deliberation, and to have justice considerably and cautiously administered. This is the *only* course which can be legally pursued, and every oath administered, every decree passed, by a single Commissioner, is absolutely unauthorized.

I know of no prosecution having taken place for perjury committed in the Court of Requests. Since I had a seat on this Bench, there has not been one, and if any man has ever been convicted of the crime (the business having been conducted as it now is) I will not say that he was unjustly, but I will say that he was illegally convicted. I go further—I say of the hundreds who are languishing in prison, there is not one who is there under the decree of a single Commissioner (which I believe is the case with them all) who is not illegally imprisoned. What the nature of the imprisonment now is, I know not; but it was formerly of no ordinary description, for there were stocks in the prison into which the unhappy debtors were put at the discretion of their keeper. I had the merit (if any belongs to it) of having procured the removal of this instrument of punishment and disgrace from the mansion of the unfortunate.

I am sorry that I have been called upon to renew this subject, but I will have it understood that such slander and trash as has been published against me, is ill-directed at least; and shall never be the cause of my saying less, although it may make me say more than I otherwise intended.

I consider it a hardship to have been compelled to this act, and it will now be seen whether or not I have justly incurred the anger of any man by making the observations which I made to the Grand Jury. I am not the fair object of any man's reproach but my own—and if I can charge myself with any thing, it is with having said less than I ought to have said.

If the Gentleman who was pleased to take offence at my charge to the Grand Jury had done me the honor of mentioning the cause of it, I could easily and would willingly have assured him of his error; and if any thing had remained which could in the least degree have affected his feelings, I should have been most happy in giving him any explanation with any degree of publicity. He elected a different—and in my opinion a less proper procedure—and I am sorry for it."

The evidence of the case before the Court was then summed up, and one of the prisoners was acquitted, and three pronounced guilty, making in all eleven convictions for the offences which were noticed by the Grand Jury, and the Judge in his charge to them. The Jury were then dismissed, and thus the Sessions ended.

Shipwreck.

Loss of the Brig Hope, Captain A. Penn, belonging to the Port of Calcutta.

(COMMUNICATED BY ONE OF THE SUFFERERS.)

On Thursday, the 6th of May, we were off the Island of Bourbon. At 11 A. M. we saw the land, and at 4 P. M. we discovered the Point of St. Dennis. At 5 P. M. we were near the shore, but the weather had now become so hazy that it did not admit of our seeing the town or the coast. An hour after this the mate went to the top mast head, and sung out "A ship a head lying at anchor." This object proved afterwards to be the Flag-Staff on St. Dennis. One of the Sookannies was sounding in the chains, and another on the quarter, with a deep sea lead; the latter sung out twenty fathoms, which was hardly heard, before the man in the chains cried out ten fathoms.

We took in our top gallant sails and fore sail to be ready for coming to. The next sounding was 5 fathoms; we then endeavoured to get from the land, but while wearing ship, the man in the chains sung out 2½ fathoms, and the ship instantly struck on the rocks.

We got the long boat out, and before we could get an anchor in her, the violence of the wind and heavy surf drifted the boat to a considerable distance. A pilot from the shore cried out to cut away the masts, which was done; the Captain, while on the quarter deck received a violent blow from the main boom, on his chest.

The Gunner, one Sookanny, and four lascars, were drifted away in the boat; the disabled Captain, and Mate, conceiving their further exertions with the remaining crew to save the vessel, quite unavailing, quitted her at 11 P. M. leaving a topaze or sweeper on board. The Captain's lady came on shore in the jolly boat, with two lascars; the rest of the people reached the shore by swimming on the spare main top mast, and the Mate in attempting anxiously to swim without any assistance, unfortunately went against the rocks and terminated his existence; this life was the only one lost on the occasion.

The Gunner went to the wreck the next morning, and brought away the Bourbon Government dispatches, and three days afterwards four casks of Brandy only were recovered from the cargo and stores.

Sir F. Burdett and Cobbett.

(From the Englishmen.)

The following correspondence, which has taken place between Cobbett and Sir Francis Burdett, has excited much curiosity. The reply of Sir Francis will, if any thing can, illumine the bronzed cheek of the ci-devant corporal with a blush, and pretty clearly elucidates the cause of that enmity which this honest and patriotic character has exhibited toward the Baronet.

To Mr. Tipper.

MY DEAR SIR,

First let me acknowledge my deep sense of the kind manner in which you have uniformly spoken to Mrs. Cobbett with regard to me; and then, without further waste of that time of which I have so little to spare.

Let me come to business, and let me lay down, before I proceed to my own particular affairs, some principles which I hold to be just to my conduct towards my creditors in general.

If there be any man who can pretend, for one moment, that mine is an ordinary case, and that not having enough to pay every body, I ought to be regarded as an insolvent debtor, in the usual acceptation of the words; and if he does this after being apprized that the whole force of an infamous tyranny was embodied into the shape of despotic ordinances, intended for the sole purpose of taking from me the real and certain and increasing means of paying off every debt and mortgage in two years; if there be any man whose prosperity and whose means of profitably employing his own industry, have remained wholly untouched and unaffected by these despotic and sudden acts of the Government, and who is yet so insensible to all feelings of humanity, as well as so willingly blind to every principle of either moral or political justice! If there be any man who, wholly absorbed in his attachment to his own immediate interest, is ready to cast blame on a debtor, who has had his means of paying, cut off by an operation as decisive as that of an earthquake, which should sink into eternal nothing his lands, his houses, and his goods; if there be any man who, if he had been a creditor of Job, would have insisted that that celebrated object of a malignant devil's wrath, which had swept away his flocks, his herds, his sons, and his daughters, was an insolvent debtor and a bankrupt, and ought to have been considered as, spoken of as such, and as such provided against: if there be any such man as this, to whom I owe any thing, to such man I first say, that I despise him from the bottom of my soul; and then I say, that if he dare meet me before the world in open and written charge, I pledge myself to cover him with as much shame and infamy as that world can be brought to deign to bestow upon so contemptible a being. For such occasion as the one supposed, if such occasion should ever occur, I reserve the arguments and conclusion which the subject would naturally suggest. To you I trust no such arguments are necessary, and therefore I will now proceed to state explicitly my intentions with regard to what I shall endeavour to do in the way of paying off debts. I hold it to be perfectly just that I should never, in any way whatever, give up one single farthing of my future earnings to the payment of any debt in England.

When the society is too weak or unwilling to defend the property, whether mental or of a more ordinary and vulgar species, and where there is not the will or the power in the society to yield him protection, he becomes clearly absolved of all his engagements, of every sort, to that society; because in every bargain of every kind it is understood that both the parties are to continue to enjoy the protection of the laws of property.

But from the great desire which I have, not only to return to my native country, but also to prevent the infamous act levelled against me from injuring those persons with whom I have pecuniary engagements, and some of whom have become my creditors from feelings of friendship, and a desire to serve me, I eagerly waive all claim to this principle, and I shall neglect no means within my power fully to pay and satisfy every demand, as far as that can be done consistently with that duty which calls on me to take care that my family have the means of fairly exerting their industry, and of leading that sort of life to which they have a just claim.

North Hampstead, Long Island, November 20, 1817.

To Sir Francis Burdett, Bart.

SIR,

I enclose you the copy of a letter to Mr. Tipper, which I beg you to have the goodness to read, and to consider the contents of it (as far as they relate to the liquidation of my debts generally) as addressed to yourself. In addition you will be pleased to understand, that, as to the debt due to you, no pains shall be spared by me to obtain the means of paying it as soon as possible; and I beg that you will furnish Mr. White, my attorney, with your charge against me, including interest, that he may transmit it to me.

I now transmit you Mr. White Wright's note of hand. It must be endorsed by you before I can proceed against Wright. This rascal always contended that he borrowed the money on his own account. Your word was quite sufficient to prove the contrary; and though no part of it was ever made use of for me, and though the arbitrator determined against my being at all responsible, I thought myself, and still think myself, bound to pay you, you putting me in a condition to recover the money from him, which you can at once do by endorsing the note of hand. I am well aware the grounds of complaint and reproach to which debtors always expose themselves, and I am not vain enough to expect to escape consequences to which all others are liable; but if I finally pay to the last farthing, those grounds will be all swept away; and as I am in no doubt of being able, in a short space of time, to pay every one fully, I anticipate with great satisfaction the day of my deliverance from this sort of thralldom.—I am, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

WM. COBBETT.

North Hampstead, Long Island, Nov. 20, 1817.

The Reply of Sir F. Burdett to Mr. W. Cobbett.

SIR,

I have just received yours of the 20th of November, and carefully, and according to your desire, perused the enclosed to Mr. Tipper.

It is not my intention to enter into any controversy respecting the honesty or dishonesty of paying or not paying debts according to the convenience of the party owing. It seems that if it should ever suit your convenience, and take nothing from the comforts and enjoyments of yourself and family, such comforts and enjoyments, and means too of distinguishing themselves, as you think they are entitled to, all this being previously secured, then you think yourself bound to pay your debts: if, on the contrary, that cannot be effected without sacrifices on your and their part; in that case your creditors have no claim to prefer and you no duty to perform. You then stand absolved, "rectus infans conscientie" and for this singular reason, because those who lent you their money when you were in difficulty and distress, in order to save you and your family from ruin, were and are unable to protect you either against your own fears, or the power of an arbitrary government, under which they have the misfortune to live, and to which they are equally exposed. These principles, which are laughable in theory, are detestable in practice. That you should not only entertain and act upon, but openly avow them, and blind your own understanding, or think to blind that of others, by such flimsy pretences, is one more melancholy proof of the facility with which self-interest can assume the mask of hypocrisy, and by means of the weakest sophistry, overpower the strongest understanding. How true is our common law maxim "that no man is an upright judge in his own cause;" how truly and prettily said by the French, "La Nature se pipe;" nor less truly, though more grossly in English, "Nature's her own bawd."

In expressing my abhorrence of the principles you lay down for your conduct, and concerning which you challenge my opinion a little unfairly, considering the ridicule with which you at the same time threaten to overwhelm the unfortunate wight who presumes to differ from them, I do not desire that you should act upon any other with regard to me; I should be sorry your family were put to any inconvenience on my account: should your circumstances ever prove so prosperous as to enable you to discharge your debts without infringing upon those new principles of moral obligation you have adopted, and which for the first time since the commencement of the world have, I believe, been, though frequently acted on, openly promulgated. As to complaint or reproach, they are the offspring of weakness and folly; disdain should stifle them; but nothing can or ought to stifle the expression of disgust every honest mind must feel at the want of integrity in the principles you proclaim, and of feeling and generosity in the sentiments you express.—I am, Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

St. James's-place, January 13, 1818.

F. BURDETT

Military

General Orders, by the Commander in Chief, Head-quarters, Calcutta:
July 9, 1819.

A Native General Court Martial to assemble at Benares or Chunar, at such time as the Officer Commanding the Benares Division may direct, for the Trial of Jemadar Oudhan Singh, of the Goruckpore Light Infantry, and all such Prisoners as may be brought before it.

The officer commanding the Benares Division of the Army, will give orders for the assembly and formation of the Court, and will nominate an officer to officiate as Deputy Judge Advocate.

The prisoners are to be warned, and sent to Benares by Captain Huthwaite—all evidences are to be directed to attend.

Captain Baines is removed from the 1st to the 2nd Battalion 13th Regiment Native Infantry.

The undermentioned officers has leave of absence.

Lieut. Hoy, Goruckpore Light Infantry, from 20th July to 20th October 1819, on medical certificate to proceed on the river.

Head-quarters, Calcutta, 10th July, 1819.

The appointment, by Major General Sir Dyson Marshall Commanding in the Field, of Lieutenant Vanrenen, of Artillery, to proceed to the Presidency in charge of the Supernumeraries, and time-expired men of the Artillery, is confirmed by the Commander in Chief.

The appointment, by Lieut. Colonel Dewar, of Lieutenant R. W. Forster, to act as Adjutant to the 2nd Battalion 13th Regiment Native Infantry, from the 26th June, 1819, is confirmed.

The Commander in Chief is pleased to make the following Promotions.

6th Regiment Light Cavalry.

Jemadars Meer Jaun, Deby Deen, and Mahomed Khan, to be Subadars, from the 1st January 1819, for the augmentation.

1st Battalion 24th Native Infantry. Jemadar Baldee Durgaher to be Subadar, from the 1st July 1819. Vice Sheikh Bullaoky invalided.—Jemadar Gooljar Singh to be Subadar, from the same date, vice Maidie Sing, invalided.—Jemadar Sew Singh to be Subadar, from the same date, vice Sewuck Ram, invalided.—Havildar Polland Singh to be Jemadar, from the same date, vice Baldee Durgaher, promoted.

Havildar Randeen to be Jemadar, from the same date, vice Googar Singh promoted. Havildar Bowance Byecus to be Jemadar, from the same date, vice Sew Singh, promoted.

Ramgurh Battalion.

Jemadar Roostum Ali, to be Subadar, from the 1st July 1819, vice Seochurn Doobee, invalided.

Jemadar Herbuns Sing to be Subadar, from the same date, vice Deenah Singh, invalided. Havildar Deria Pandey to be Jemadar, from the same date, vice Roostum Ali, promoted.

Havildar Parsun Sing, to be Jemadar, from the same date, vice Herbuns Sing, promoted.

The contingent furnished from the 2nd Regiment Native Infantry, for the Ceylon Volunteers forming the 2nd Company 2nd Battalion of Volunteers, being left without an officer by the promotion of Captain Bird, and the death of Lieutenant Hoggarth, Captain Weston of that Regiment, being now at the Presidency, is appointed to the command of the above mentioned Company, and will accordingly join the 2nd Battalion Ceylon Volunteers at Barrackpore, without delay.

JAS. NICOL, Adj. Genl. of the Army.

MADRAS CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. Hugh Spottiswood, Collector of Madras.

Mr. Charles Woodcock, Collector and Magistrate of the Northern Division of Arcot.

Mr. F. W. Robertson, Collector and Magistrate of the Zillah of Rajahmundry.

MADRAS GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

General Orders by Government, Fort St. George, May 8, 1819.

With reference to the General Order dated 2d February last, requiring all persons having claims to participate in the Prize Property captured at the Isle of France, to execute Powers of Attorney, leaving blank the name of the Agent to receive it in England. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to notify, that the Honorable the Court of Directors have since directed the execution of the above order to be suspended, until the receipt of their further instructions on the subject.

May 22, 1819.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to establish the following Regulation regarding Commands.

All Officers Commanding Corps, equally in garrison as in the field who may be entitled to Brigadier's allowance, under the 55th and 61st Paras. of the Regulations concerning Batta, pages 21 and 22 of the Code, are hereby authorized and directed to transfer their Regimental Command to the next Senior Officer of their Corps respectively, who will draw full Batta for such temporary command.

This Regulation is to have effect from the 1st of June 1819.

May 31, 1819.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to make the following Appointments and Promotions:

Lieutenant (Brevet Captain) A. Walker, of the 25th Native Regiment, to be Major of Brigade in the Ceded Districts, vice Wilkinson.

Lieutenant John Fulton, of the 6th Native Regiment, to be Major of Brigade in Malabar and Canara, vice Walker.

Lieutenant C. Maxtone, of the 9th Native Regiment, to be Fort Adjutant at Vellore, vice Fulton.

Lieutenant G. Williams, of the 9th Native Regiment, to be Adjutant to the 2d Battalion of that Corps, vice Rodger.

Lieutenant Richard Budd of the 16th Native Regiment, to be Adjutant to the 2d Battalion of that Corps, vice Hodder.

13th Regiment Native Infantry.

Senior Lieutenant (Brevet Captain) A. Bently to be Captain, from the 11th May 1819, vice Wilkinson deceased.

16th Regiment Native Infantry.

Senior Captain George Jackson to be Major, and Senior Lieutenant (Brevet Captain) Felix Robson to be Captain, from the 1st May 1819, in succession to Baber invalided.

Mr. Saint John Bogle French, Cadet of Infantry, is admitted on the Establishment, in conformity with his appointment by the Honorable the Court of Directors, from the 25th May 1819.

Mr. Saint John B. French is promoted to be Ensign, leaving the date of his Rank to be settled hereafter.

Mr. Ebenezer Walker M'Cosh is admitted an Assistant Surgeon on the Establishment, in conformity with his appointment by the Honorable the Court of Directors, from the 26th May, 1819.

Serjeant John Cannah of Effective Supernumeraries, is appointed a Conductor of Ordnance, vice M'Gowan deceased.

June 8, 1819.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to make the following Appointments and Promotions.

Lieutenant R. Gordon of the 13th Regiment Native Infantry, to be Adjutant to the 2d Battalion of that Corps, vice Bently.

Lieutenant J. Anthony of the 6th Native Regiment, to be Adjutant to the 1st Battalion of that Corps, vice Watson.

Mr. Assistant Surgeon W. R. Selby to be Assistant Garrison Surgeon, and Superintendent of the Dispensary, vice Stuart.

24th Regiment Native Infantry.

Senior Captain John Moore to be Major, and Senior Lieutenant (Brevet Captain) O. W. Ambrey to be Captain, from the 23d May 1819, in succession to Harrington deceased.

Captain E. Osborn of the 2d Native Infantry Brigade Major in Mysore, is permitted to return to Europe on sick certificate.

Lieutenant H. Crossdale of the 10th Native Infantry is permitted to proceed to Bengal, with leave to return to Europe on furlough for three years, to commence from the date of his embarkation at Fort William if within three months after his arrival at that Presidency.

Captain R. Home of the 8th Native Regiment, is permitted to proceed to Bengal, on leave of absence for six months from the date of his embarkation.

Mr. Surgeon George Anderson has returned to his duty, by permission of the Honorable the Court of Directors, without prejudice to his Rank. Arrived at Madras the 28th May. 1819.

Messrs. Assistant Surgeons R. Richardson and D. Reid have returned to their duty, by permission of the Honorable the Court of Directors, without prejudice to their Rank.—Arrived at Madras the 26th May 1819.

Mr. Conductor Peter Bready has returned to his duty by permission of the Honorable the Court of Directors, without prejudice to his Rank.—Arrived at Madras the 26th May 1819.

By order of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council.

(Signed) E. WOOD, Sec. to Government.

June 11, 1819.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to appoint Mr. Superintending Surgeon White to be an Acting Member of the Medical Board, and Mr. Superintending Surgeon Howard to act as Superintending Surgeon at the Presidency until further orders.

By order of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council.

(Signed) G. STRACHEY, Chief Secretary.

General Orders, by Lieutenant General Trapaud, Head Quarters, Choultry Plain, May 28, 1819.

Lieutenant General Trapaud, Commanding the Army in Chief, is pleased to establish the following Uniform for the 24th and 25th Regts. ordered to be added to the Native Infantry of this Presidency, in Government General Orders of the 8th instant:—

24th Regiment.

*Colour of Lapels, Cuffs, and Collars:—*Pale Buff.

*Soldier's Lace:—*White with Black Stripe.

*Clothing of Drums and Fifes, including lining:—*Pale Buff with Red.

*Officers' Buttons:—*Yellow.

*Officers' Trimings:—*Gold.

25th Regiment.

*Colour of Lapels, Cuffs, and Collar:—*Bright Yellow.

*Soldier's Lace:—*White with Black Stripe.

*Clothing of Drums and Fifes, including lining:—*Bright Yellow with Red.

*Officers' Buttons:—*Yellow.

*Officers' Trimings:—*Gold.

Lieutenant Rowley of the 9th Regiment N. I. is posted to the 2nd Battalion of Pioneers, vice Rickard.

Serjeants J. Doherty, W. Doyle, and J. Campbell, of the Horse Art. are promoted to be Quarter Masters in that corps, to complete the establishment.

June 2, 1819.

Captain E. H. Leith of the 22nd Regiment, is removed from the 1st to the 2nd Battalion of that corps.

Captain B. Blake of the 23rd Regiment, is removed from the 2nd to the 1st Battalion of that corps.

Captain Guille of the 2nd Battalion 5th Regiment, is relieved from the duty on which he is at present employed at Poonamallee, and is directed to take charge of a detachment of the 2nd Battalion 5th Regiment at that Station under orders to rejoin Battalion Head Quarters.

June 3, 1819.

The leave of absence granted to Lieutenant Gregory of Artillery, in S. O. 27th May 1819, to visit the Presidency, is cancelled.

Ensign W. Cockburn (late promotion) is posted to do duty with the 2nd Battalion 4th Regiment, until further orders.

Ensign St. John B. French (late promotion) is posted to do duty with the 1st Bat. 18th Regiment, until further orders.

Assistant Surgeon W. H. S. Richards is removed from the 15th Regt. N. I. to the 8th Regiment light cavalry.

Asst. Surg. J. Morton is posted to the 15th regt. 2nd batt.

June 5, 1819.

The leave of absence granted to Lieutenant Colonel Chitty in General Order of the 9th January 1819, to visit the Presidency on sick certificate, has been cancelled from the 2d of March last, the date of his appointment as a Member of the General Court Martial assembled in Fort St. George.

The furlough granted to Lieutenant Colonel Lindsay, in General Order 27th ultimo, is cancelled.

Lieutenant Colonel Lindsay of the 16th Regiment Native Infantry, will relieve Lieutenant Colonel Chitty as President of the Committee for the investigation of claims to Pensions.

Major J. H. Baber of the Invalid Establishment, is posted to the 1st Native Veteran Battalion.

Captain J. Briggs of the 15th Regiment, is removed from the 2d to the 1st Battalion; and Captain S. Townsend of the same Regiment from the 1st to the 2d Battalion.

Lieutenant W. Bourdieu of the 17th Regiment, is removed from the 2d to the 1st Battalion.

Lieutenant Augustus Clarke of the 20th Regiment Native Infantry, is removed at his own request, to the 4th Regiment Native Infantry, in which he will rank next below Lieutenant Chauvel, and is posted to the 2d Battalion.

Lieutenant M'Pherson of the 2d Battalion 5th Regiment Native Infantry will join and do duty with the Detachment of that Corps at Poonamallee under Captain Guille.

Lieutenant J. Anthony of the 6th Regiment, is removed from the 2d to the 1st Battalion.

June 7, 1819.

Lieutenant Colonel T. A. S. Ahmuty is removed from the 6th to the 25th Regiment and 1st Battalion.

Lieutenant Colonel I. Vicq is removed from the 25th to the 8th Regiment and 1st Battalion.

Lieutenant R. Young of the 2d Battalion 23d Regiment Native Infantry is directed to attend the General Court Martial of which Major General Ross Lang is President, as Interpreter.

Lieutenant Eastment of the 1st Battalion 13th Regiment, is relieved from the duty on which he is employed under Captain Home; and directed to join his Corps.

June 10, 1819.

Captain G. Field of the 2d Battalion 9th Regiment N. I. is directed to do duty with the Infantry Recruiting Depot until further orders.

Artillery.

Lieutenant A. L. Murray is removed from the 1st to the 3d or Gollundauz Battalion.

Lieutenant R. G. Polwhele is removed from the 3d or Gollundauz to the 1st Battalion.

Lieutenant Brevet Captain Whannel is removed from the 1st to the 2d Battalion 24th Regiment, and

Lieutenant G. Gray from the 2d to the 1st Battalion of the same Regiment.

June 11, 1819.

Major Parlbys is removed from the 2d to the 1st Battalion 7th Regiment, and Major Woodhouse from the 1st to the 2d Battalion of the same Regiment.

The leave of absence granted to Lieutenant T. A. Crichton, in General Orders 27th May last, to visit the Presidency, is cancelled at that Officer's request.

The undermentioned Officers have obtained leave from their Corps and Stations.

Major Com. of Stores in Mysore, W. G. Pearse, Artillery, 16th September 1819, Presidency.

Captain Brigade Major, Mysore, E. Osborn, 2d N. Regiment 31st August 1819, do. Presidency, sick certificate.

Captain F. L. Burman, 1st Battalion 7th Regiment 31st December 1819, do. Sea Coast, s. c.

Captain J. Watson, 1st Batt. 6th Regt. 31st July 1819, do. do.

Lieut. T. Locke 2d Batt. 7th Regt. 10th Sept. 1819, do. Presidency.

Lieut. R. Wallace doing duty 2d Batt. 17th Regt. 31st December 1819, do. Arcot and Presidency.

Lieutenant Aid de-Camp A. B. Dyce, 4th N. Regt. 30th June 1819, Presidency.

Lieutenant and M. B. to the Officer Comg. H. S. Force C. E. Duck-infield 7th Light Cav. 22d September 1819, Sea Coast, s. c.

Lieutenant G. H. Thomas, 7th Light Cav. 31st August 1819, Presidency, sick cert.

Lieutenant E. C. Campbell 1st Batt. 1st Regt. 21st November 1819, Sea Coast, sick cert.

Lieutenant A. Woodburn doing duty 2d Batt. 17th Regt. 30th November 1819, Presidency, sick cert.

Lieutenant C. Taylor, Artillery 31st July 1819, Copanldroog.

B. R. HITCHINS, Assist. Adj. Genl's Dept.

Curious Test.

To the Editor of the Morning Chronicle.

SIR,

The enclosed page of a book, published in the reign of Charles II. contains a curious test, proposed to the Parliament of that day; whatever necessity might have existed for it then, we ought to rejoice that we live in an age more virtuous.

MITE.

"About this Time the House having been surmised to be under a corrupt Influence, the following test was brought in for every Member to take by way of Purgation. This test never being published, will be worth the Remembering, and runs thus: 'I. A. B. do protest before God, and this House of Parliament, that directly nor indirectly, neither I, nor any for my Use, to my knowledge, have, since the first Day of January, 1672, had, or received any Sum or Sums of Money by ways of Imprest, Gift, Loan, or otherwise from the Kings' Majesty', or any other Person by his Majesty's Order, Direction or Knowledge, or by Authority deriv'd from his said Majesty, or any Pardon, Discharge, or Respite of any Money due to his said Majesty upon Account, or any Grant, Pension, Gratuity, or Reward, or any Promise of any such Office, Place or Command, of or from his Majesty, or out of any Money, Treasure, or Estate, of or belonging to his Majesty, or of, or from, or by any foreign Ambassador, or Minister, or of, or from, or by any other Person in the Name, or by the Appointment, or with the Knowledge of his Majesty, or any of them; otherwise than what I have now in Writing faithfully discover'd and deliver'd to this House, which I have subscrib'd with my name: Neither do I know of any such Gift, Grant, or Promise so given or made since the said, to any other Member of this House, but what I have also inserted in the said Writing; nor have I given my Vote in Parliament for any Reward or Promise whatsoever. So help me God, &c."

Bangalore Chalybeate.

To the Editor of the Madras Gazette.

SIR,

I take the liberty of transmitting to you the annexed report of an analysis of a Chalybeate Mineral Water, taken from a Well, situated in the Cantonment of Bangalore.

One Pint of 28,875 Cubic Inches contains,

Carbonate of Lime, an exceeding small quantity,

Carbonate of Iron, 7-10ths of a grain,

Muriate of Soda, 2 grains,

The Carbonates of Lime, and Iron, are held in solution by a small quantity of Carbonic Acid.

It immediately occurred to me, that this Water might with facility be rendered a very excellent substitute for the celebrated Cheltenham Water: and be administered with every reasonable expectation of its possessing equal medicinal virtues.

It may not be amiss in the first place to premise that the Salts in England, and sent out to India, under the Title of "Cheltenham Chalybeate Aperient Salts," are nothing more than direct preparations of Sulphate of Soda (Glauber Salt) and Sulphate of Magnesia (Epsom Salt) respectively. It is further absolutely impossible to prepare Salts from these Waters, which shall retain the Carbonate of Iron.

To prepare the Bangalore Water, add to one Pint, the moment it is taken from the Well, a quarter of an Ounce of Crystallized Epsom Salt. The Water should be drank at the Well, and care taken that it be not shook; as the Carbonic Acid is liable to become expelled, and the Iron precipitated from its solution.

A fortnight or three weeks course of this Water, attending to the precautions enjoined at Cheltenham, would, I have little doubt, afford relief to numbers of Valetudinarians, who often having in vain ransacked the Materia Medica, would be compelled to confess at last that here presides the Hygeian Goddess.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

A.

Madras, June 1, 1810.

Domestic Occurrences.

DEATHS.

Drowned, on the 15th of January last, in attempting to land from his ship at Mocha, when a very high surf prevailed, Captain Francis Phillip Dennis, commander of the ship Laura, aged 26 years. Thus, in the spring of manhood, in the pursuit of acquiring an honorable independence, was cut off one of the noblest and best of young men. In the several relations of life he was truly exemplary, in his profession highly skilled, and in his disposition amiable and engaging—for wherever he was known he was beloved.

By this severe, though all-wise dispensation of Providence in calling hence this beloved object, his relatives have sustained a shock, which the softening hand of time can only tend to calm and alleviate.

At Cape Town, on the 24th of January last, Anna, the Lady of Colonel S. W. Ogg, of the Madras Establishment.

At Gopainpore, on the 6th June, the Lady of Lieutenant A. Sibbald, of the 4th Native Infantry.

At Madras, on the 23d June, Anna, relict of the late Lieutenant Colonel Smart, Quarter Master General of that Presidency.

We reported, in our Journal of yesterday, the death of Colonel Charles Trotter, and we now add the following tribute to his memory.

"The deceased had enjoyed an almost uninterrupted state of good health for nearly forty years, the period of his service in the East. The disease that terminated in his death commenced about three months ago with bilious symptoms; but being accustomed to slight attacks of bile in the hot season, he thought this to be nothing more; and hoped it would go off, as usual, of itself. Thus, unhappily, was he deceived, until his complaint had much such an alarming progress as to resist the effects of medicine.

He was interred, at his own particular desire, without the military honors usually paid to his rank, but such a man was not to be committed in privacy to the grave; his dying request was, indeed, literally observed, but such honors were paid him as few receive; for every inhabitant of the place, whether European or Native, high or low, rich or poor, bewailed his death both as a private and a public loss, and his corpse was followed by crowds to the tomb."

Shipping Intelligence.

CALCUTTA ARRIVALS.

July.	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From whence	Left
13.	Bengal	British	G. Woodward	Liverpool	Mar. 3
12	Uday	British	A. Pelly	Muscat	June 14

CALCUTTA DEPARTURES.

July.	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
12.	Hercules	British	J. Henderson	Valparaiso

Nautical Notices.

The brig Brothers, Captain C. MacNicol, from Madras the 30th of June, arrived in the river on the 11th instant.

The ship Lady Flora, Captain Balston, for the Cape of Good Hope, dropped down the river on the 12th instant.

CURRENT VALUE OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

BUY	JULY 1819.	SELL
0 Ru. 10 As. {	Six per Cent Loan Promissory Notes.	0 Ru. 14 As.

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

REMIT	CALCUTTA	[DRAW
2s 6d	On London, 6 Months sight, per Sicca Rupee.	2s 7d
	On Bombay, 30 Days sight, per 100 Rom. Rs. Sa. Rs.	—
	On Madras, 30 Days sight, per 100 St. Pags. Sa. Rs.	—

HIGH WATER AT CALCUTTA THIS DAY.

MORNING, 84. 12m. | EVENING, 84. 36m.